

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

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S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS SUMMARY, TUESDAY MORNING, FEB 16

NO. 7

WIRES

REUTERS

GUTMAN FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE, OPENING HIS MIDDLE EAST TOUR, DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN THE AREA WITH ISRAELI LEADERS TODAY AND LATER DESCRIBED HIS TALKS AS VERY USEFUL AND FRIENDLY.

OTHER POINTS:

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-- RABIN, ALLON AND VANCE ALL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AFTER MEETINGS.

-- BEFORE MEETING ALLON, VANCE VISITED YAD VASHEM AND PLACED WREATH.

-- EARLIER, ARAB MAYORS IN WEST BANK SENT VANCE MESSAGE SAYING PLO WAS ONLY REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

-- DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND ISRAEL CONCERNING PALES-

TINIAN REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA EXPECTED TO SURFACE.

-- ISRAEL REFUSES TO ATTEND TALKS WITH PLO PRESENT AND
REMAINS SKEPTICAL THAT PLO LEADERS HAVE MODERATED POLICIES.

-- VANCE BELIEVED TO HAVE TAKEN TRIP AT URGING OF KISSINGER.

-- THIS VANCE'S FIRST TRIP TO AREA. NEAREST HE HAD BEEN
BEFORE WAS CYPRUS IN 1967 WHEN HIS DIPLOMACY WAS WIDELY
REGARDED AS HAVING PREVENTED A WAR.

AP

BARRY SCHWEID FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "THE US AND ISRAEL SAID TODAY THEY WOULD CONTINUE
THEIR REFUSAL TO INCLUDE THE PLO IN MIDEAST PEACE TALKS."

OTHER POINTS:

-- RABIN TOLD REPORTERS ARAB OBJECTIVE WAS TO GET ISRAEL
OUT OF ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND ESTABLISH PLO-RUN STATE
ON ISRAEL'S BORDERS.

-- ISRAEL HAS NOT CHANGED POSITION ON NEGOTIATING WITH PLO,
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ACCORDING TO RABIN, AND NEITHER HAS US, ACCORDING TO VANCE.

-- IN VIENNA, WALDHEIM SAID HE EXPECTS PLO TO DISCUSS ITS
POSITION ON EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL AT MEETING NEXT MONTH.

-- VANCE SAID RABIN WILL VISIT US WITHIN SIX WEEKS.

UPI

JIM ANDERSON FROM JERUSALEM

ANDERSON LEADS WITH THE MEETING WITH RABIN AND QUOTES
VERY POSITIVE READ OUT FROM ISRAELI GOVT RADIO.

OTHER POINTS INCLUDED:

-- SECRETARY HAS COME TO LEARN AND HAS NOT NEW INITIATIVE.
ONE ISRAELI OFFICIAL DESCRIBED IT AS A "KIND OF HISTORY

LESSON."

--VANCE, WEARING BATTERED BROWN FELT HAT, WAS GREETED BY
ALLON.

-- IN REMARKS, VANCE "TRIED TO ALLAY SUSPICIONS HE HAD

COME TO PRESSURE ISRAELIS INTO SETTLEMENT."

--AMERICAN AND ISRAELI OFFICIALS AGREED PALESTINIANS
MAJOR ISSUE. "AMERICAN OFFICIALS ABOARD THE SECRETARY'S
PLANE" QUOTED.

-- ISRAELI OFFICIALS SAID TUESDAY NIGHT ISRAEL WILL NOT
ACCEPT SEATING OF PLO AT GENEVA. ONLY CHANGE WOULD BE IF
PLO AMENDED CHARTER TO ELIMINATE CALL FOR DESTRUCTION OF
ISRAEL.

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RADIO/TV

CBS

BERNARD KALB ON CBS-TV MORNING NEWS FROM JERUSALEM

KALB: THE SECRETARY'S BREAKFAST MEETING WITH RABIN WAS
THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF MEETINGS TODAY WITH ISRAELI
LEADERS. THEIR ATTENTION RIGHT NOW IS FIXED ON THE
NATIONAL ELECTION SET FOR MAY, WITH THE PRIME MINISTER
FIGHTING FOR HIS POLITICAL LIFE. BUT DOMESTIC PRIORITIES
WERE PUT ASIDE AS VANCE BEGAN PROBING ISRAEL ON SEVERAL
KEY ISSUES: HOW THE ISRAELIS SEE AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST
SETTLEMENT; THE EXTENT OF AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM
OCCUPIED TERRITORY; AND THE QUESTION OF PALESTINIAN
REPRESENTATION AT ANY PEACE CONFERENCE.

VANCE'S NEXT STOP: A VISIT TO YAD VASHEM, THE NATIONAL
MEMORIAL TO THE 6,000,000 JEWS MURDERED BY THE NAZIS
DURING WORLD WAR II. YAD VASHEM, SYMBOLIZING ISRAEL'S
DETERMINATION NEVER TO ALLOW ITS FUTURE TO BECOME IM-
PERILED.

VANCE THEN CONFERRED WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON, WHO IS
EXPECTED TO TELL THE SECRETARY THAT ISRAEL IS READY TO
ATTEND A GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE, BUT WITHOUT THE PAR-
TICIPATION OF THE PLO. IN NABLUS, IN THE OCCUPIED WEST
BANK, ARAB SCHOOLCHILDREN DEMONSTRATED IN SUPPORT OF THE
PLO. THEY THREW STONES AT ISRAELI SOLDIERS, WHO RE-
TALIATED BY FIRING TEAR GAS.

SO FAR AS MANY ISRAELIS ARE CONCERNED, THE TIMING OF THE
VANCE TRIP IS NOT EXACTLY IDEAL, WHAT WITH THE PREOC-
CUPATION WITH THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND THE ERUPTION OF
A POLITICAL SCANDAL HERE. BUT THE TIMING WAS SET BY THE
US, AND SO, THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION TAKES PRECEDENCE
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OVER DOMESTIC POLITICS FOR THE MOMENT, WITH THE TENSION NOW CENTERING ON FINDING A WAY TO BRING WHAT DIPLOMATS CALL PEACE TO THIS VOLATILE PART OF THE WORLD.

BERNARD KALB ON WTOP RADIO, FROM TEL AVIV

THIS IS VANCE'S FIRST TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST, AND NOT ONLY AS SECRETARY OF STATE. HE'S NEVER VISITED THESE COUNTRIES BEFORE. HE FOLLOWED DEVELOPMENTS LONG DISTANCE, AS IT WERE, BUT SINCE BECOMING SECRETARY OF STATE, HE'S ENGAGED IN A CRASH COURSE IN THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS JOURNEY, HE SAID, IS TO LISTEN AND LEARN, TO GET SOME IDEA OF THE VISION OF PEACE AS IT'S SEEN BY BOTH THE ISRAELIS AND THE ARABS. HIS FINDINGS WILL THEN BE REVIEWED, THE OBJECTIVE TO DEVELOP A US APPROACH ON HOW TO FACILITATE THE PROCESS FOR PEACE. IMPLICIT IN ALL THIS IS THE CONVICTION BY VANCE THAT A RECONVENING OF AN ARAB-ISRAELI CONFERENCE IS CRITICAL. THE LAST ONE WAS HELD IN GENEVA IN 1973.

BUT, A MAJOR OBSTACLE HAS TO DO WITH THE QUESTION OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT SUCH A CONFERENCE, AND ON THIS QUESTION, THE TWO SIDES -- THE ARABS AND THE ISRAELIS -- ARE WIDELY SPLIT. IN FACT, THERE ARE DIFFERENCES IN APPROACH AND EMPHASIS ON THE ARAB SIDE ON HOW TO HANDLE THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION.

THE VANCE VISIT, THEREFORE, IS A KIND OF CATALYST AIMED AT PRODDING BOTH SIDES INTO FINDING A COMPROMISE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE.

ABC

BARRIE DUNSMORE ON "GOOD MORNING, AMERICA", FROM JERUSALEM
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DUNSMORE: SECRETARY VANCE BEGAN HIS DAY IN ISRAEL WITH BREAKFAST WITH ISRAELI PREMIER YITZAK RABIN. THIS IS A DIFFICULT TIME FOR RABIN, WHO IS BEING CHALLENGED FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF HIS PARTY BY DEFENSE MINISTER SHIMON PERES. HE IS ALSO UNDER FIRE BECAUSE OF A LOCAL SCANDAL INVOLVING ILLEGAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS. THE LATTER HAS NOT TOUCHED RABIN DIRECTLY, BUT IT GOES DEEPLY INTO THE LABOR PARTY OF WHICH HE IS THE HEAD. NEVERTHELESS, FOREIGN POLICY MUST BE ATTENDED TO, AND RABIN PUT BEFORE VANCE ISRAEL'S CURRENT ATTITUDE TOWARD NEGOTIATIONS. THE PUBLIC ISRAELI POSITION IS THAT IT WOULD ATTEND A CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, BUT IT REFUSES TO TAKE PART IF THE PLO IS A PARTICIPANT UNDER ANY GUISE. VANCE WANTS TO PROBE

THE FULL DEPTH OF THAT POSITION.

THE NEXT ITEM ON HIS AGENDA WAS A VISIT TO YAD VASHEM, THE ISRAELI MEMORIAL TO THE 6,000,000 JEWS KILLED IN THE NAZI HOLOCAUST. VANCE'S GUIDE WAS GIDEON HAUSNER, MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO, AND THE MAN WHO PROSECUTED ADOLF EICHMANN. PARTICULARLY BECAUSE VANCE HAS NEVER BEEN TO THE MIDDLE EAST, THE ISRAELIS BELIEVE THAT A VISIT TO YAD VASHEM, WHICH MEANS 'LASTING MEMORIAL,' IS MORE THAN SIMPLY A COURTESY. THEY BELIEVE IT GIVES A VISITOR A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR PROFOUND CONCERN OVER MATTERS OF SECURITY. VANCE, OF COURSE, IS SENSITIVE TO THESE CONCERNS, AND MADE IT THE MAIN POINT OF HIS ARRIVAL STATEMENT THAT THE US IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE SECURITY AND THE SURVIVAL OF ISRAEL.

NBC

RICHARD VALERIANI ON "TODAY", FROM JERUSALEM

VALERIANI: SECRETARY VANCE, WHO SAID HE CAME TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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MIDDLE EAST TO LISTEN, BEGAN HIS LISTENING AT A PRIVATE BREAKFAST WITH PRIME MINISTER RABIN. THE ISRAELIS ARE EMPHASIZING THEY WILL NOT TAKE PART IN ANY NEGOTIATING PROCESS WITH THE PLO AS LONG AS THE PLO REMAINS FORMALLY COMMITTEED TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL. VANCE WAS THEN TAKEN ON THE RITUAL TOUR OF YAD VASHEM, THE MEMORIAL TO THE MILLIONS OF JEWS KILLED BY THE NAZIS DURING WORLD WAR II.

THE MEMORIAL SERVES AS A CONSTANT AND BRUTAL REMINDER TO THE JEWS WHAT IT MEANT TO BE UNARMED, UNPROTECTED AND UNORGANIZED IN THE FACE OF THEIR ENEMIES, AND IT HELPS

EXPLAIN TO VISITORS THE IMPETUS FOR AN INDEPENDENT JEWISH STATE.

MORE DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWED AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH DEPUTY PREMIER YIGAL ALLON. THERE'S BEEN NO OFFICIAL WORD HERE YET ON THE CANCELLATION OF THE PROMISED SALE OF CONCUSSION BOMBS TO ISRAEL, BUT THE ISRAELIS HAVE BEEN APPREHENSIVE EVER SINCE PRESIDENT CARTER SAID HE WAS REVIEWING THE SALE. THE ISRAELIS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S STATED INTENTION OF REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF WEAPONS SHIPPED INTO THE MIDDLE EAST. AND BEFORE THEY'RE READY TO TALK ABOUT THE SPECIFIC SHAPE OF A FINAL PEACE SETTLEMENT, THEY WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROSPECT FOR FUTURE AMERICAN ARMS DELIVERIES.

BARRY SCHWEID, WTOP RADIO FROM JERUSALEM

SCHWEID: CYRUS VANCE IS IN ISRAEL TO DISCUSS WITH PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND OTHER ISRAELI LEADERS THE QUEST FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. VANCE BEGAN WITH A PLEDGE OF AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S SURVIVAL AND SECURITY, AND HE UNDERScoreD THE TRUST THAT HAS EXISTED BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. THE TWIN POINTS ARE SIGNIFICANT. THE CARTER
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ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO PROD ISRAEL TO GIVE UP MORE TERRITORY TO THE ARABS, AND INTENDS TO FIND OUT IF ISRAEL HAS EASED ITS OPPOSITION TO BARGAINING WITH THE PLO.

ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON TOLD VANCE IT IS HIGH TIME FOR REVIVING POLITICAL MOMENTUM IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE SAID ISRAEL IS NOT FOR STAGNATION. BUT PRIVATELY, ISRAELI OFFICIALS INDICATE THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO BUDGE AN INCH ON THE PLO.

NEWSPAPERS

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

STORY ON PAGE 5. HEADLINE: "VANCE ARRIVES IN ISRAEL WITH VOW OF SUPPORT"

JOHN MACLEAN FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE STEPPED INTO THE STEAMY AIR OF TEL AVIV TUESDAY NIGHT -- HIS FIRST WHIFF OF THE MIDDLE EAST --AND PROMISED ISRAEL THAT THERE IS 'NO QUESTION' ABOUT CONTINUED US SUPPORT."

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE MET WITH EMBASSY STAFF, AND IS TO MEET WEDNESDAY SEPARATELY WITH PRINCIPAL ISRAELI MINISTERS, AN ARRANGEMENT PROMPTED BY BATTLE BETWEEN RABIN AND PERES.

-- AMERICAN SOURCES SAY ISRAEL ASKED FOR SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH RABIN AND PERES; ISRAELIS SAY AMERICANS REQUESTED THEM.

-- ISRAELI GOVERNMENT SOURCES SAID ISRAEL PREFERS STEP-BY-STEP, THUS AVOIDING THE ISSUE OF PLO ATTENDANCE AT
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GENEVA.

-- VANCE HAS TOLD ASSOCIATES HE WANTS TO ELICIT FROM

ISRAELI AND ARAB LEADERS THEIR "VISION" OF A FINAL PEACE SETTLEMENT.

-- PUBLICLY, ISRAEL SHARES US VIEW THAT CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE. PRIVATELY, ISRAELI OFFICIALS EMPHASIZE THE MANY PROBLEMS THAT LIE IN THE WAY OF REVIVED NEGOTIATIONS.

WASHINGTON POST

PICTURE ON PAGE ONE. STORY ON PAGE 14. HEADLINE:
"VANCE OPTIMISTIC AS MIDEAST TOUR STARTS IN ISRAEL."

DON OBERDORFER FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE BEGAN HIS SEARCH FOR A PATH TO ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE HERE TONIGHT IN THE BELIEF THAT PROCEDURAL BARRIERS TO A NEW GENEVA CONFERENCE MAY BE OVERCOME BY JUNE."

OTHER POINTS:

-- OPTIMISM BY ALLON ON ARRIVAL.

-- BRIEFING FOR AMERICAN REPORTERS BY SENIOR ISRAELI FORNMIN OFFICIAL "IN STARK CONTRAST TO THAT OPTIMISM."
WAY TO GENEVA CONF BLOCKED BY ARAB DEMANDS THAT PLO BE REPRESENTED.

-- US POSITION ON PLO COMPLICATED BY SECRET KISSINGER MEMO IN FALL OF 1975 TO ISRAEL, WHICH STATED ISRAEL WILL HAVE A VETO OVER ANY NEW PARTICIPANTS IN A GENEVA PEACE

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CONFERENCE, AND PLEDGED US WOULD NOT DEAL WITH PLO SO LONG AS IT DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AND DOES NOT ACCEPT RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338.

-- "BEFORE LEAVING WASHINGTON, A SENIOR STATE DEPT OFFICIAL TOLD REPORTERS THAT KISSINGER'S PLEDGES TO ISRAEL ABOUT THE PLO AND GENEVA ARE BINDING ON THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND CAN BE CHANGED ONLY WITH ISRAEL'S APPROVAL." ISRAELI FORNMIN OFFICIAL TOOK SAME POSITION.

-- CHANGE IN PLO POSITION CAN COME ONLY THROUGH REVISION OF CHARTER. US POSITION ON POINT NOT KNOWN. PLO TO MEET MARCH 12 IN CAIRO.

-- "INFORMED SOURCES" SAID VANCE PLANS TO CONCENTRATE ON SUBSTANCE RATHER THAN PROCEDURES OF AN ULTIMATE SETTLEMENT.

-- REPORTERS ON PLANE TOLD VANCE BELIEVES PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS COULD BE OVERCOME IN FIRST HALF OF YEAR AND THEN SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS COULD BEGIN.

-- "IT WAS ALSO LEARNED THAT VANCE PLANS TO VISIT WEST GERMANY, FRANCE AND ENGLAND ON THE WAY HOME FROM A FOUR-DAY VISIT TO MOSCOW NEXT MONTH, AND THAT HE IS CONSIDERING A TRIP TO CHINA BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR."

BALTIMORE SUN

HENRY TREWHITT FROM JERSUALEM

STORY ON PAGE ONE. HEADLINE: "ISRAELI WARMTH, SKEPTICISM GREET VANCE ON FIRST LEG OF MIDDLE EAST MISSION."

LEAD: "ISRAEL GREETED CYRUS R. VANCE AND HIS PEACE-SEEKING MISSION LAST NIGHT IN SPLENDID MIDEAST FASHION, UNCLASSIFIED

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SHOWING BOTH GREAT WARMTH AND GREAT SKEPTICISM ABOUT AMERICAN IDEAS FOR A SETTLEMENT."

OTHER POINTS:

-- APPARENT ISRAEL INTENDED TO MOVE SLOWLY IN WHAT PROMISED -- AS WAS EXPECTED -- TO BE A TORTUOUS PROCESS.

-- ISRAEL UNCERTAIN GENEVA RIGHT FORUM.

-- SOURCES "ASSERTED REPEATEDLY ONE UNWAVERING POSITION:" NO MEETING WITH PLO, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, UNTIL PLO

"AFFIRMED ABSOLUTELY ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AS A STATE."

-- QUOTED FROM VANCE AND ALLON AT ARRIVAL.

-- DIFFICULTIES WERE EMPHASIZED IN PRIVATE BY OFFICIALS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS, PARTICULARLY QUESTION OF PLO. AMERICAN OFFICIALS EMPHASIZE THAT VANCE HAS NO PRESCRIPTION.

-- VANCE IS EXPECTED TO REVEAL DIRECTION OF ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION ON PLO BY QUESTIONS HE ASKS, AND WILL BE AIMING AT RECONVENING OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.

-- "AS BEFORE, ISRAEL PROMISES TO ACCEPT PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES FOLDED INTO ANOTHER ARAB DELEGATION."

-- VANCE REAFFIRMED US PLEDGE NOT TO DEAL WITH PLO UNTIL IT CHANGES POSITION ON ISRAEL. "BUT US ALSO IS LOOKING

FOR SIGNS OF FLEXIBILITY ON ALL SIDES, AND THAT PROCESS
MAKES ISRAELIS DECIDEDLY NERVOUS."

-- ISRAEL WOULD BE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH STEP-BY-STEP. AT
END, ONE ISRAELI OFFICIAL SAYS, INTERIM DEVELOPMENTS
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MIGHT MAKE PLO QUESTION EASIER TO SOLVE.

-- ISRAEL UNDER POLITICAL HANDICAPS: ELECTION CAMPAIGN
AND WIDESPREAD PERCEPTION THAT ARAB GOVERNMENTS ARE
TAKING MODERATE POSITIONS.

BOSTON GLOBE

BEECHER FROM JERSUALEM

STORY ON PAGE ONE. HEADLINE: "VANCE BEGINS MIDEAST MIS-
SION; ISRAELIS SAY THEY WON'T ACCEPT PALESTINIAN STATE"

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE, ON HIS FIRST STOP
ON A SIX-NATION PEACE MISSION TO THE MIDEAST, WILL
RECEIVE SOME DISCOURAGING NEWS TODAY."

MAIN POINTS OF ARTICLE:

-- SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIALS AT BRIEFING FOR AMERICAN RE-
PORTERS SAID "VANCE WOULD BE TOLD IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS
THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT ACCEPT A FACE-SAVING FORMULA TO
ALLOW REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PLO TO SIT AT A RECONVENED
GENEVA CONFERENCE."

-- VANCE ALSO TO BE TOLD WHY ISRAEL CANNOT ACCEPT AN
INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE.

-- THIS NOT UNEXPECTED MESSAGE PROVIDES AN INAUSPICIOUS
START FOR CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS.

-- VANCE ARRIVAL STATEMENT QUOTED, AS WELL AS ALLON.

-- STORY CONTINUED WITH PARENTHETICAL ON CBU DECISION.

-- ISRAELI STAND NOT LIKELY TO CHANGE REGARDLESS OF
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ELECTION OUTCOME.

-- "UNLESS THE PLO REVOKES THAT LANGUAGE IN ITS CHARTER
WHICH CALLS FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL, THE SOURCES
SAID, ISRAEL WILL NOT CONSENT TO ANY ARRANGMENET WHERE

THE PLO EITHER IS REPRESENTED IN A COMMON ARAB DELEGATION OR GOES TO GENEVA ONLY AFTER AN AGENDA HAS BEEN WORKED OUT."

NEW YORK TIMES

GWERTZMAN FROM JERUSALEM

STORY ON PAGE 7. HEADLINE: "VANCE IS IN ISRAEL ON MIDEAST MISSION"

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE ARRIVED TODAY TO START WHAT HE CALLED 'A QUEST FOR PEACE' IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WITH THE EMPHASIS ON THE SEARCH FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT RATHER THAN THE LIMITED ACCORDS FAVORED BY ISRAEL."

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE SOUGHT TO "EASE APPREHENSION" IN AIRPORT STATEMENT, ESPECIALLY ON PLO AND TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS.

-- ALLON ALLUDED TO RECENT US ACTIONS, SUCH AS CONCUSSION BOMB DELAY AND AMOCO DISPUTE.

-- VANCE MET WITH AIDES AND EMBASSY OFFICIALS; DISCUSSIONS BEGIN TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

-- VANCE TO MEET WITH PERES AS WELL AS RABIN BECAUSE OF LEADERSHIP BATTLE.

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-- VANCE HOPES TO DISCUSS "HIS VISION OF A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE MIDDLE EAST" ON THE TRIP AND ASCERTAIN FLEXIBILITY. VANCE PREFERS GENEVA CONFERENCE AFTER ISRAELI ELECTIONS; ISRAELIS PREFER STEP-BY-STEP.

-- TRAVELING PRESS BRIEFED BY ISRAELI FORMIN OFFICIAL. TOLD ISRAEL WON'T ATTEND GENEVA CONFERENCE IF PLO IS THERE "UNDER ANY GUISE." "MOREOVER, ISRAEL WOULD NOT CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF A PALESTINIAN CHANGE OF ATTITUDE UNLESS THE PLO COVENANT WAS AMENDED TO STATE EXPLICITLY ACCAPTANCE OF ISRAEL."

-- ISRAELI OFFICIAL ALSO SAID ISRAEL WOULDN'T GIVE BACK ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. HE ALSO WAS SKEPTICAL OF VANCE'S READINESS TO COOPERATE WITH USSR ON MIDEAST SETTLEMENT.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

STORY ON PAGE 5. HEADLINE: "VANCE OPTIMISTIC ON ARRIVAL
IN JERUSALEM TO RENEW QUEST FOR PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST"

OSWALD JOHNSTON FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE ARRIVED HERE
TUESDAY ON THE FIRST LEG OF A RENEWED AMERICAN QUEST FOR
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, EXPRESSING OPTIMISM THAT
PROCEDURAL ROADBLOCKS TO AN ARAB-ISRAELI CONFERENCE AT
GENEVA CAN BE WORKED OUT BY EARLY SUMMER."

OTHER POINTS:

-- CUSTOMARY DECLARATIONS BY VANCE AND ALLON ON ARRIVAL.

-- EVERY SIGN THAT VANCE WOULD HAVE "EXHAUSTING AND
STRENUOUS TIME" IN ISRAEL.

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-- "REPORTERS TRAVELING WITH VANCE HAVE BEEN REMINDED
REPEATEDLY BY US SOURCES THAT HIS MIDDLE EAST MISSION IS
FOR 'FACT-FINDING,' NOT NEGOTIATION. AFTER TODAY'S
TALKS, THE TERM 'EDUCATION' MIGHT WELL BE SUBSTITUTED."

-- VANCE'S CYPRUS EXPERIENCE CAN SCARCELY PREPARE VANCE
FOR PRESSURES OF ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE.

-- PLO PROBLEM, WITH ISRAELI POSITION AGREEING WITH US
POSITION "ON THE SURFACE." HOWEVER, ISRAEL IS NOW

DEMANDING A CHANGE IN THE PLO CHARTER AS PROOF OF A
CHANGE OF HEART.

-- ISRAELI OFFICIALS SET UP BRIEFING FOR TRAVELING PRESS
TO PUT ACROSS MESSAGE, AND NO DOUBT THAT VANCE WILL GET
IT, TOO.

--SCHEDULE ITEMS: MEETINGS, MEALS AND YAD VASHEM.

-- "VANCE DEPARTS FOR CAIRO THURSDAY, BY THAT TIME
PRESUMABLY WELL BRIEFED BY THE ISRAELIS TO WITHSTAND ANY
ATTACK PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT MAY CHOOSE TO LAUNCH AGAINST
THE ISRAELI POSITION."

-- ISRAELI POSITION IS REALLY MORE FLEXIBLE AND SUBTLE
THAN PUBLIC STANCE INDICATES.

-- THE ISRAELI BRIEFER SPOKE OF NEED FOR "BYZANTINE
ARRANGEMENTS". THE ISRAELIS ARE ALSO AWARE THAT AN
INACTIVE US MIDEAST POLICY TRANSLATES INTO CERTAIN AMOUNT
OF PRESSURE ON ISRAEL.

-- CONCLUSION: "SO AT PRESENT THEY (ISRAELIS) ARE
PLAYING ALONG IN THE PREGENEVA GAME OF PROCEDURES AND
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METHODOLOGIES, WHILE SAVING UP FOR LATER THE REAL ISSUES
OF HOW MUCH TERRITORY TO CEDE BACK TO EGYPT, SYRIA OR
JORDAN -- AND HOW, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE FORMALITIES OF A
GENEVA CONFERENCE, TO FIT THE PALESTINIANS INTO A SETTLE-
MENT."

NO KEATLEY IN TODAY'S WALL STREET JOURNAL.

NO WALLACH ARTICLES TO DATE. TODAY'S HEARST PAPERS
UNAVAILABLE.

HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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